

REMARKS

Please reconsider the present application in view of the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering the present application and indicating that claims 19-21 are allowable.

I. Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-21 are currently pending in the present application.

II. Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-18 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-6, 8, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, and 25 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/092,336 in view of Japanese Reference No. 2000-348607.

In response, Applicant has enclosed a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.130(b) and 1.321(c). Accordingly, withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejections is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 15115.017001).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/7/01



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